



**Council District Six  
City of San Diego**

**Councilmember Frye's  
2009 State of Clairemont Address**

January 8, 2009

Contact:

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## **West Clairemont**

### **Bay View Plaza & Clairemont Drive Median**

Developer C.W. Clark is moving forward with the Bayview Shopping Center located at the bottom of Clairemont Drive at Morena Boulevard. Recent delays in the project have been associated with environmental cleanup of the site and the tightened financial market causing a more restrictive lending environment, but the developer hopes to have these issues resolved in the next few months. My office has worked closely with the developer to identify funding for renovation of the median in front of the project on Clairemont Drive to help make it a beautiful entryway into Clairemont. The median project will include palm trees, native coastal and canyon landscaping and a community entryway sign. For more information about the status of this development, please contact C.W. Clark's project manager, Jeff Rogers at (858) 452-7170 x311.

### **Cleanups**

In cooperation with the Clairemont Town Council, the Greater Clairemont Chamber of Commerce and Allied Waste Management, we sponsored a community cleanup on May 31, 2008. The cleanup was located at the future site of the Bayview Shopping Center and we appreciated the owners allowing the use of the property for this important annual event. Allied Waste Management provided two large dumpsters for the community to dispose of their trash and debris. I also wish to extend a special thank you to Kathy Monsour of the Clairemont Planning Committee for keeping all the volunteers hydrated and fed. Check our newsletter, *Frye Lights*, for our next community cleanup in the months to come.

### **Cars for Sale in Clairemont**

For the last several years, a number of residents from various Clairemont neighborhoods have expressed concerns about specific streets that have become used car sales areas. Oftentimes this activity occurs on major entry points into our communities that have high traffic volume and visibility. The Transportation Department's Parking Management Division and the Police Department's Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Unit enforce the City's current 72-hour parking violation ordinance in order to keep these "parked until they are sold" cars moving. However, this ordinance has only been effective for vehicles parked in the exact same location for over 72 hours.

In cooperation with former Councilmember Brian Maienschein, Councilmember Frye helped to fund and adopt an enforceable ordinance that:

- a) will designate certain streets as being off limits for vehicle sales;
- b) authorizes that signs be posted on the designated streets prohibiting vehicle sales;

c) requires that violators be given a warning notice, and a list of other designated streets where the vehicle cannot be parked for sale;

d) allows a vehicle to be impounded if it is found in violation within 30 days after the original warning notice, but not less than 24 hours.

The advantage of this ordinance is that it targets problem areas without affecting others. Councilmember Frye was able to get Clairemont Drive from Interstate 5 to Denver Street included on the list of streets that prohibit vehicle sales. Other problem streets can be recommended for inclusion; however, funding will first need to be identified.

### **Undergrounding**

Clairemont's undergrounding projects are moving forward as scheduled. Utility lines at many major collector streets and rights-of-way throughout Clairemont have been undergrounded, with an ambitious schedule for 2009. I remain committed to the city-wide undergrounding vision and will ensure that our community receives the funding for this to continue. For more information about when you can expect the power lines in your neighborhood to come down, please call the City's Undergrounding Hotline at (619) 533-3841.

## **East Clairemont**

### **Mesa College Canyon Day and Parking Structure**

Mesa College anticipates their parking structure that was approved on January 8, 2007 to be completed near the end of January 2009. The adjacent Police Substation is expected to be completed in early May. The college held their first annual Mesa College Canyon Day on May 3, 2008. At the recommendation of Councilmember Frye when the parking structure was approved by the City Council, this event has been developed to focus college resources on outreach, education, awareness of environmental conservation and preservation of Tecolote Canyon. Mesa College Canyon Day is also made possible through the efforts of the students and faculty of the college, area schools and community partners. For more information about Canyon Day please check Mesa College's website at: [www.sdmesa.net/canyonday](http://www.sdmesa.net/canyonday).

### **Clairemont Street Sweeping**

A new street sweeping pilot study in Clairemont began on April 14, 2008 and is expected to last for the next 2 years. The pilot study includes increased sweeping of routes in both commercial and residential areas. The City employed new vacuum-assisted sweepers as part of the pilot effort and communicated the increased frequency of sweeping and the new sweeping schedules to the affected residents. Locations for the pilot study were selected based on monitoring data showing that these areas have a high potential for metal contaminants. For more information, please contact Jennifer Nichols Kearns,

Senior Public Information Officer for Think Blue at (858) 541-4331 or e-mail Jennifer at [jnicholskearns@sandiego.gov](mailto:jnicholskearns@sandiego.gov).

## **Clairemont Community-Wide Services**

### **The Safe Homes & Safe and Accessible Sidewalks Programs**

As part of my office's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocations, I allocated funds to the Safe Homes Project, a free service for low-income homeowners that provides for the purchase and installation of screen doors with locks, motion sensor outside lights, deadbolt locksets, smoke alarms and carbon monoxide/smoke detectors.

I also fund the Accessible Sidewalk Program in District Six. This is a free service for residents to request the installation of curb cuts at intersections to make our sidewalks safer and more accessible. For more information about these two programs, please call Keith Corry at (619) 533-6463.

### **Rebuilding Together San Diego**

Rebuilding Together San Diego (RTSD) is an organization committed to preserving and revitalizing houses and communities, assuring that low-income homeowners, particularly seniors and families with children, live in warmth, safety, and independence. I consistently allocate a portion of my office's CDBG funds for this important program.

In a partnership project with RTSD, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and Allied Waste Management, my office assisted a senior Clairemont resident in cleaning up his home. Responding to a City Neighborhood Code Compliance inspector who had concerns about the condition of the resident's yard, we asked Rebuilding Together San Diego to help. RTSD worked with several different groups to donate their time, resources, supplies, and labor to help cleanup the backyard. The work transformed the 88-year-old's yard back into the beautiful fruit and vegetable garden it once was. The work completed that day included the installation of a privacy fence, a power washing of his home, carpet and debris removal, old fence removal, tree and brush trimming, house painting, a brand new gifted patio set, new doorbell installation, new blinds, and exterior window washing.

If you would like to volunteer or possibly sponsor a home for improvement, please visit the Rebuilding Together San Diego website at: [www.rebuildingtogethersd.org](http://www.rebuildingtogethersd.org).

## **Clairemont Community Service Center**

As of January 31<sup>st</sup>, the Clairemont Service Center located 4731 Clairemont Drive will be closed due to budget cuts. Residents will no longer be able to access any City services at the center, which included water and sewer bill payments and passport purchasing. If residents would like to pay their water bills without sending them via U.S. Mail, they can use their personal computers or visit any public library to pay them online. The website to do this is: <https://secure3.i-doxs.net/cityofsandiego>. If you have further questions about this method of payment, please call (619) 515-3500 or send an e-mail to [water@sandiego.gov](mailto:water@sandiego.gov).

In addition to these services being discontinued, there were approximately 55 community groups that met in the community meeting space located at the Clairemont Community Center. This room will also close on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

However, Councilmember Frye's office in cooperation with the Mayor's office, Judy Bramer and Chad Gardner, has identified two local organizations that have volunteered their facilities so these groups can continue to meet. As was the practice at the Clairemont Service Center, the groups may be required to pay a nominal fee to cover the costs of electricity associated with the increased hours of operation. Please contact one of the following agencies to arrange for future meeting accommodations:

- 1) LiveWell San Diego  
(Formerly the Clairemont Senior Friendship Center)  
4425 Bannock Ave  
San Diego, CA 92117  
(858) 483-5100  
Outreach Coordinator: Phillip Castillo  
[phillip.castillo@livewellsandiego.org](mailto:phillip.castillo@livewellsandiego.org)  
[www.livewellsandiego.org](http://www.livewellsandiego.org)
- 2) Bayside Community Center  
2202 Comstock Street  
P.O. Box 712525  
San Diego, CA 92171-2525  
(858) 278-0771  
Executive Director: Jorge Riquelme  
[jriquelme@baysidecc.org](mailto:jriquelme@baysidecc.org)  
[www.baysidecc.org](http://www.baysidecc.org)

Because it is part of the same lease, also closing will be the Police storefront located next to the Clairemont Service Center. However, because the community is very interested in keeping this important Police presence in or around Clairemont Square, its property management office is working to identify a new site in the Square at no cost to the Police Department. When a location is agreed upon, we will notify the community as soon as possible.

Although this is a significant loss for the Clairemont community, we are thankful to have had the community's and Mayor's help in coming up with a workable solution that minimized the proposed reduction in community services.

Since she took office, Councilmember Frye continues to meet with members of the community on a regular basis in Clairemont on the fourth Friday of each month. Since the Clairemont Service Center will be closing, she will now be meeting with residents at LiveWell San Diego beginning on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Please contact her office at (619) 236-6616 to schedule an appointment, or with any further questions about the status of this change.

### **Community Meetings and Frye Lights**

I continue to meet with members of the community on a regular basis on the fourth Friday of each month by appointment. I will meet with Clairemont residents on January 23, 2009 at the Clairemont Community Service Center. However, please contact my office at (619) 236-6616 for any community meeting after January.

We also publish a monthly newsletter called *Frye Lights*, that provides updates and current events from the District Six communities. Staff distributes the newsletter at community meetings, and it is also available in electronic format on our website at: [www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd6/index.shtml](http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd6/index.shtml). You can also sign up on this website to automatically receive electronic copies of the newsletter in your e-mail.

### **Clairemont Traffic Improvements**

#### **Signage and Striping Changes**

- Stop Signs:
  - Installed stop signs on Jellett Street at Deerpark Drive
  - Installed an ALL-WAY STOP at Mount Acadia Boulevard and Cowley Way
- Road Humps:
  - Installed road humps on Pocahontas Avenue between Hatteras Avenue and Joplin Avenue
  - Installed road humps on Atlas Street between Baltic Street and Cullen Street
  - Installed road humps on Mount Hay between Mount Foraker Avenue and Mount Everest Boulevard

- School area improvements:
  - Replaced the existing school warning signs with fluorescent yellow/green signs on Tait Street approaching Coolidge Street
  - Installed a passenger loading zone for the Wittier Center Del Sol Academy at 3401 Dakota Drive
  - Replaced the existing yellow crosswalk with a yellow ladder crosswalk on Eckstrom Avenue at Cosmo Street
  - Installed advance school warning signs on Eckstrom Avenue between Charger Boulevard and Amoroso Street
  - Replaced the existing school warning signs with fluorescent yellow/green signs on Mount Brundage Avenue and Mount Ararat Drive for Holmes Elementary at 4902 Mount Ararat Drive
  - Removed school warning signs on Galveston Street north of Ingulf Street
  
- Signs and markings:
  - Relocated a STOP AHEAD sign for westbound traffic on Chandler Drive approaching Mount Abernathy Avenue
  - Installed a STOP AHEAD sign for southbound traffic on Mount Abernathy Avenue approaching Chandler Drive
  - Installed marked crosswalks at the intersection of Via Carancho and Mount Acadia Boulevard
  - Installed STOP AHEAD pavement markings for southbound traffic on Cowley Way approaching Jellett Street
  - Installed painted stop bar in advance of existing yellow crosswalks at Clairemont Drive at Ute Drive
  
- Parking:
  - Installed red curb for visibility at the following locations:
    - Cole Street at Cole Court
    - Baxter Street at Firestone Street
    - Frink Avenue at Firestone Street
    - Appleton Street at New Haven Road
    - Chicago Street at Baltimore Street
    - Murat Street at Lisann Street
    - Mount Aguilar Drive at Mount Abraham Avenue
    - Fairfield Street at Field Street
    - Morena Boulevard at Financial Court
    - Joplin Avenue at Gila Avenue
    - Pocahontas Avenue at Clairemont Mesa Boulevard
  
  - Installed red curb for driveway clearance at the following locations:
    - 3452 Armstrong Street
    - 4850 Sagasti Avenue
    - 5230 Barstow Street
    - 2635 Grandview Street

- Removed red curb at the following locations:
    - 2556 Chicago Street
    - 2845 Wyandotte Avenue
  - Installed a short term parking (green) zone at 6988 Beagle Street
  - Removed a disabled person parking (blue) zone at 3462 Aldford Drive
  - Installed a PARK PARALLEL sign at the westerly end of the 3600 block of Marlesta Drive
  - Installed 2-HOUR TIME LIMIT PARKING signs on Morena Boulevard south of Ashton Street
  - Installed red curb for a fire hydrant at Massasoit Avenue and Jutland Drive
  - Installed a disabled parking (blue) zone at 4161 Aeronca Avenue
- Speed Limits:
    - Installed SPEED LIMIT 30 signs on Ariane Drive between Leathers Street and Aber Street

### **Traffic Signal Operations**

- Traffic signal retiming:
  - Adjusted timing to improve traffic flow at Mesa College Drive at Armstrong Street

## **City-Wide Accomplishments**

### **Lead Paint Ordinance**

On March 11, 2008, the City Council voted to support a new ordinance that will help prevent, identify and remedy lead hazards in housing before children are poisoned. This ordinance was the result of my formation of the Lead Poisoning Prevention Citizen's Advisory Committee, that forwarded recommendations to the Land Use and Housing Committee of the City Council. The ordinance requires use of lead-safe work practices to ensure that children are protected from the dangers of lead-based paint and dust. Call the Lead Safe Neighborhoods Program at (858) 694-7000 with any questions or to report a possible lead hazard. This includes pre-1979 buildings with cracking, peeling and chalking paint, and people unsafely disturbing paint on pre-1979 buildings. You can also contact the Environmental Health Coalition at: [www.environmentalhealth.org](http://www.environmentalhealth.org).

### **General Plan**

A comprehensive update to the City of San Diego's General Plan was unanimously adopted by the City Council on March 10, 2008. The new General Plan sets out a long-range vision and comprehensive policy framework for how the City should plan for projected growth and development, provide public services, and maintain the qualities that define San Diego over the next 20 to 30 years. The Planning Commission will be holding a hearing on the draft General Plan Action Plan in February 2009.

### **Bi-Monthly Water and Sewer Billing**

On March 1, 2008, the City of San Diego Water and Metropolitan Wastewater

Departments began the process of switching water/sewer/storm drain customers to a bi-monthly billing cycle. This switch impacted all single-family domestic customers, and some multi-family, commercial and industrial customers. In 2003, the Water Department issued monthly bills, with every other bill based on an estimate of water usage. Now, the bill customers receive every two months is based on actual usage, not estimates as in the

past. One constituent named Andy Manzi played a large role in calling this discrepancy to our attention. We very much appreciated his hard work and astute suggestions. Another benefit to bi-monthly billing is the savings for the Water and Metropolitan Wastewater Departments (for printing and mailing) which are expected to exceed \$500,000 annually. For questions about your bills, call the Water Department at (619) 515-3500.

### **Mandatory Recycling Ordinance**

Until recently, San Diego was one of the only cities in the county that did not require mandatory recycling by residents and businesses. In 2005, I had made a motion that was supported by the full City Council to direct the former City Manager to provide an update on when the Mandatory Recycling program would be docketed for Council. Unfortunately, nothing was brought forward until 2007, when the City Attorney released a proposed ordinance to require mandatory recycling throughout the City, including condominium and apartment complexes, and businesses where recycling is often unavailable. I held a meeting of the Natural Resources and Culture Committee to review the proposal, which recommended that the ordinance move forward to the full City Council for approval. As of February 18, 2008, certain apartment and condominium complexes, businesses and special events in San Diego are required to provide recycling programs to their tenants, employees and participants. The Mandatory Recycling Ordinance aims to reduce the amount of waste entering local landfills in order to lengthen the life of the Miramar Landfill, meet California recycling mandates and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. If you would like any additional information about recycling, please call the Environmental Services Department at (858) 694-7000.

### **Amendments to the City's Emergency Water Regulations**

On July 28, 2008, the Mayor and City Council declared that San Diego is in a Stage 1 Water Emergency. San Diegans are now officially requested to voluntarily save water. If the City goes to a Stage 2 Water Alert, there may be mandatory water conservation. In this Stage 1 Water Watch, San Diegans are asked to voluntarily reduce their indoor and outdoor usage. A complete list of the voluntary actions being requested are laid out in the Municipal Code regarding Emergency Water Regulations, which the City Council updated on November 10, 2008. These changes were made in order to improve the City's

demand response program in the event of a water supply shortage. For more information check the Water Department's website at:  
[www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/ordinance.shtml](http://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/ordinance.shtml)

### **Drought Model Ordinance**

In 2006, the City of San Diego applied to the office of Emergency Services for a flood mitigation assistance planning grant. The City was awarded \$50, 000 in grant funds and was provided a list of 23 properties within San Diego which were designated as repetitive loss (RL) properties by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The City

then hosted workshops which provided an opportunity for residents to learn about the City's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs, and to voice their concerns of potential flooding issues throughout the city. One of the community meetings was held in the Mission Valley Community, which has flooding issues due to its proximity to the San Diego River. The City completed its first flood mitigation plan and got approval from FEMA on June 17, 2008. Now that the plan has been approved by the City Council, the City will be eligible to receive additional grant funds from FEMA to implement the mitigation strategies proposed in the Flood Mitigation Plan.

### **Pension Reform Compromise**

Earlier this year I worked cooperatively with Mayor Sanders, Council President Peters and the City's unions to draft a new pension plan for new city employees that will save the city millions of dollars while still remaining competitive in attracting qualified employees to work for San Diego.

### **Redevelopment Agency Repayment to General Fund**

For years I have called for the city's Redevelopment Agency, and specifically the Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC), the entity responsible for redeveloping the downtown area, to begin repayment of funds loaned to it by the city totaling over \$100 million. During last year's budget discussions, the mayor agreed with me and beginning with this year's budget, the Redevelopment Agency will pay the city \$11.3 million to fund the annual debt service on PETCO Park.

### **Council Governance**

Over the past few months, I have reached out to many of you in the community to hear your ideas and suggestions as to how you think the City Council can be better run to serve you. After many community meetings and public hearings, I was able to draft a report on your recommendations. Some of the suggestions include:

- More evening meetings of the City Council
- More meetings in the communities- away from City Hall

- Requiring the Mayor to attend public meetings and listen to members of the public speak
- Expand access to the City Council Docket
- Enhance Council Oversight of Independent City Agencies (SEDC, CCDC)

I worked closely with Councilmember DeMaio and the rest of the City Council to bring these items forward for discussion. In December, the City Council voted to have a full discussion of these proposed reforms at the City Council's Rules Committee in early 2009. You can view a copy of the final report at:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd6/pdf/memorandum/081113.1.pdf>

### **Opposed Pay Raises**

I opposed pay raises to employees during the last round of budget hearings. The proposed raises, during these difficult economic times for the city, were not based on any new revenue source that would have provided the needed funding. I spoke out against such a practice, which unfortunately has been the way the city has done business in recent years.

### **Council Leadership Selection Process**

When the voters of San Diego elected four new councilmembers into office this past November, they were expecting new leadership on the City Council. However, with only a few weeks remaining until the old councilmembers left office, there was a push by outgoing councilmembers to choose the leadership (Council President and President Pro-Tem) for the new City Council. I believe this act blatantly ignored the wishes of thousands of voters across the city, and was entirely inappropriate. I worked closely with new and old councilmembers to successfully put a stop to this effort.

### **SEDC Investigation**

For months, I believed there was inappropriate behavior taking place at the South Eastern Development Corporation. After an investigation by the *Voice of San Diego* confirmed my suspicions, we found that the committee engaged in inappropriate land deals with developers, under the direction of out-of-control president, while also giving herself raises with taxpayer dollars. I worked with the mayor and other councilmembers to take swift action. The board is now under new leadership and is in the process of reforming its business practices.

### **Auditing Inefficiencies in the City**

As we have gone about reforming the way our city deals with how to audit itself, I have been able to ensure that the city looks inward to correct any inefficiencies in our internal controls and auditing system. Making sure our city auditor is free from management interference, that the city council Audit Committee is free from management influence, and that our city auditor has a sufficient number of employees are all crucial aspects of

having auditor independence. I will continue to be vigilant about this by working cooperatively with the city auditor and the city's Audit Committee, as I believe it is a vital function that can help guarantee the fiscal health of our city in future years.

### **Whistleblower Hotline**

With the passage of Prop C and by working closely with the city's Audit Committee I was able to get the city's Whistleblower Hotline under the control of the city auditor, instead of the Mayor's office. Having the Mayor's office run it was an inherent conflict of interest because all employees work for him, making the hotline useless and ineffective. Having the city auditor control it will give employees a safer place to report

instances of corruption, waste or inappropriate behavior when they see it in city departments. I will continue to work closely with the city auditor to ensure the hotline is run effectively and independently.

### **Councilmember Frye serves on the following City Council Committees:**

Natural Resources & Culture (chair)  
Rules, Open Government, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

### **Useful Information:**

For more information about the City Council's weekly agenda visit the city website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil>

The contact information for the Mayor and the City Council is provided below for your convenience:

**Mayor Jerry Sanders**  
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